



Issy-les-Moulineaux, 24th January 2022

CHYPRE THE SAUR GROUP RENEWS ITS CONTRACT TO OPERATE THE NICOSIA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IN CYPRUS

The Saur Group has renewed its contract with the Sewerage Board of Nicosia to operate the Vathia-Gonia wastewater treatment plant (Nicosia - Republic of Cyprus), worth €24 million. The Group will continue to operate the plant for a further ten years. The Vathia-Gonia wastewater treatment plant is the Saur group's largest reference using membrane filtration technology for wastewater, and the first plant in Europe to reuse all of the treated water for agricultural irrigation.

Commissioned in 2010, the Vathia-Gonia wastewater treatment plant (120,000 population equivalent with a capacity of 22,000 m³/day) was designed and built by Stereau, the Saur Group's engineering division, and our Cypriot partner, Iacovou Group, which specialises in civil engineering. In 2007, the Group won a comprehensive contract to design, build and operate the plant. This contract, extended for a further ten years, also includes the implementation of a vast equipment renewal programme.

The Vathia-Gonia wastewater treatment plant is the Saur group's largest reference in membrane filtration of wastewater. It uses the Saur group's patented Aqua-RM® process, complemented by ultraviolet disinfection. These treatments guarantee the production of treated water of exceptional quality. The membranes act as a physical barrier to viruses, bacteria and suspended matter. At the forefront of water resource conservation, the Saur group has strongly developed this membrane technology, which is particularly well suited to the protection of sensitive environments and the reuse of treated wastewater

A European benchmark for the reuse of treated wastewater

This partnership will help preserve water resources in one of the most drought-prone regions in the world. With no natural water reserves and several years of chronic drought, Cyprus suffers from a severe water shortage, exacerbated by the island's seasonal tourist influx (4 million tourists a year). The membrane filtration technology used at the plant enables significant savings to be made in drinking water thanks to the reuse of treated wastewater. This solution relieves the need for water for agriculture, which accounts for 70% of the island's demand for drinking water.

This renewal is part of Saur's strong commercial momentum in regions experiencing severe water stress. It attests to the good working relationship established between the Saur Group and the Sewerage Board of Nicosia, as well as the quality of the services provided by the Group between 2010 and 2021.

Patrick Blethon, Executive Chairman of the Saur Group, said:

"I am delighted with the renewal of this contract, which demonstrates the relationship of trust we have developed with the Sewerage Board of Nicosia. This contract illustrates our commitment to offering alternatives that promote sustainable management of water services and resources for everyone, everywhere. Faced with the challenges of climate change and water scarcity, adaptation strategies must be implemented, particularly in regions subject to water stress. The reuse of treated wastewater is a significant step forward that we will continue to develop."

About Saur : As an exclusive provider of water and essential services, Saur works to protect the environment in the areas it serves. The Saur Group has always strived to offer the same quality of service to small towns and large cities alike, guided by its mission: to defend water. Internationally, Saur is present in Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, Scotland, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland and Portugal. Key figures for 2021: €1.7 billion in net revenue, 9,200 local authorities under contract, 12,000 employees and 20 million inhabitants served worldwide.

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